Jewelry and Metal Arts Safety Posters

JEWELRY & METAL ARTS

STUDIO SAFETY POSTERS · PRINT & POST AT EACH STATION

WORK AREA

JEWELRY BENCH

1. **Clear the bench after every session**
   Leave the surface completely clear — no tools, scraps or personal items — so the next maker can start straight away.
2. **Sweep the surface and bench pin**
   Use the bench brush to sweep all filings and clippings into the bench tray. Never brush onto the floor.
3. **Wipe out the pull-out drawer**
   Empty metal dust and scraps from the catch drawer and wipe it clean with a dry cloth before you leave.
4. **Return all tools to their hooks**
   Files, pliers and cutters go back on designated hooks. Bench blocks return to the shelf.
5. **Check the floor**
   Sweep any dropped pieces — small metal fragments are a hazard for everyone in the studio.

▲ LEAVE IT CLEANER THAN YOU FOUND IT

JEWELRY & METAL ARTS
BELLINGHAM MAKERSPACE

EQUIPMENT

ROTARY TOOLS & FOOT PEDALS

1. **No off button — the pedal IS the switch**
   These tools have no power button. The foot pedal controls all power. Treat it as a live switch at all times.
2. **Connect the pedal only when ready to work**
   Plug in the foot pedal only after your handpiece is fitted and you are seated and ready to begin.
3. **Return the pedal to the locker after every use**
   Unplug and store the foot pedal in its designated locker immediately. Never leave it on the floor.
4. **Hang the handpiece above the bench**
   After each use, hang the handpiece on its hook above the bench — keeps cords clear and the surface free for others.
5. **Wear eye protection at all times**
   Flying debris from burrs and bits is a serious hazard. Safety glasses on whenever the tool is running.

▲ PEDAL UNPLUGGED · HANDPIECE HUNG · BENCH CLEAR

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HAZARDOUS AREA

SOLDERING STATION

1. **Check ventilation before lighting the torch**
   Confirm the fume extractor is on and drawing properly. Never solder without active ventilation running.
2. **Ignite safely — torch pointing away from your body**
   Direct the tip away from yourself and others before striking. Never use matches to light the torch.
3. **Hot metal looks exactly like cold metal**
   Always assume freshly soldered metal is hot. Use cross-locking tweezers or quench in water before handling bare-handed.
4. **Extinguish the torch whenever you step away**
   Stepping away for any reason — even briefly — means the torch goes off completely.
5. **Cool, clean and clear before you leave**
   Quench work, rinse flux residue, wipe the soldering pad and brick, and return all tools to their tray.

▲ FIRE EXTINGUISHER LOCATED BY THE STUDIO DOOR

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EXTREME HEAT

KILN AREA

1. **Confirm the correct programme before firing**
   Check the schedule is set for your material. Never override or interrupt a programme already running.
2. **Wear heat-resistant gloves and eye protection**
   Kiln gloves and shaded glasses are required when opening the kiln or handling work directly out of it.
3. **Never reach into a hot kiln without proper tools**
   Use kiln tongs or loading forks. Keep face and body clear of the door when opening — heat escapes rapidly.
4. **Place hot work on the cooling shelf only**
   Freshly fired pieces go on the designated cooling shelf — never on the bench, floor, or near flammables.
5. **Log your firing and sign out**
   Record your name, material, programme and end time in the kiln logbook after every use.

▲ SURFACE TEMPERATURES EXCEED 900 °C · DO NOT TOUCH

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CHEMICAL HAZARD

PICKLING AREA

1. **Wear nitrile gloves and eye protection**
   Pickle solution is acidic. Gloves and safety glasses are mandatory before handling the pot or any work from it.
2. **Never put steel into the pickle pot**
   Steel tools contaminate the solution and will copper-plate your work. Use only copper or plastic tongs.
3. **Rinse work thoroughly after pickling**
   Remove all acid residue with a full water rinse before returning work to the bench or continuing to solder.
4. **Keep the lid on when not in use**
   Replace the pot lid immediately after adding or removing work — reduces fumes and prevents splash accidents.
5. **Skin contact — rinse immediately and notify staff**
   Flush affected skin with running water right away. Do not attempt to neutralise alone — find a staff member.

▲ ACID SOLUTION · NO STEEL TOOLS · RINSE SKIN IMMEDIATELY ON CONTACT

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SHARP EQUIPMENT

METAL SHEARS / GUILLOTINE

1. **Keep fingers clear of the blade line**
   Never place fingers within the marked safety zone. Use the hold-down guide to position your material.
2. **One operator at a time**
   No one else should reach near the blade while the shear is in use. Bystanders should stay behind the marked floor line.
3. **Support both sides of long sheet metal**
   Wide or long stock can drop suddenly after cutting — use the outfeed support or ask a helper to catch falling pieces.
4. **Gloves are recommended when handling cut sheet**
   Cut edges can be razor-sharp. Cut-resistant gloves are recommended before edges are filed or finished.
5. **Clear metal offcuts from the area right away**
   Put metal pieces directly into the scrap bin — loose offcuts on the floor are a hazard for everyone.

▲ BLADE IS ALWAYS SHARP · NEVER REACH UNDER THE GUARD

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